

Listing and Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace the claims that were published in the PCT Application and the claims submitted with the Article 34 response:

1. (currently amended) A method ~~(300, 500, 600, 800)~~ for controlling an apparatus having an emergency alert function, comprising steps of:

detecting a first condition wherein signal strength on a selected channel associated with said emergency alert function exceeds a threshold ~~(610)~~;

detecting a second condition wherein a broadcast test associated with said emergency alert function is passed, said broadcast test including detecting reception of a test signal that is broadcast on a scheduled periodic basis ~~(805, 815, 830)~~; and

providing an output if said first and second conditions are detected.

2. (currently amended) The method ~~(300, 500, 600, 800)~~ of claim 1, wherein said broadcast test includes determining whether said test signal includes a user selected location code associated with said emergency alert function.

3. (currently amended) The method ~~(300, 500, 600, 800)~~ of claim 1, wherein said test signal is broadcast on a weekly basis.

4. (currently amended) The method ~~(300, 500, 600, 800)~~ of claim 1, further comprised of:

tuning a plurality of channels associated with said emergency alert function ~~(310)~~; and

identifying one of said channels having higher signal strength relative to said other channels as said selected channel ~~(310)~~.

5. (currently amended) The method ~~(300, 500, 600, 800)~~ of claim 4, further comprised of using said selected channel to receive emergency alert signals capable of activating said emergency alert function ~~(320)~~.

6. (currently amended) The method ~~(300, 500, 600, 800)~~ of claim 1, further comprised of:

providing a first output message ~~(700)~~ if said first condition is not detected ~~(650)~~; and

providing a second output message ~~(900, 1000, 1100)~~ if said second condition is not detected ~~(825, 840, 860)~~.

7. (currently amended) The method ~~(300, 500, 600, 800)~~ of claim 6, wherein said first and second output messages each indicates a corrective action.

8. (currently amended) An apparatus ~~(20)~~ having an emergency alert function, comprising:

processing means ~~(27)~~ for detecting a first condition wherein signal strength on a selected channel associated with said emergency alert function exceeds a threshold, and for detecting a second condition wherein a broadcast test associated with said emergency alert function is passed, said broadcast test including detecting reception of a test signal that is broadcast on a scheduled periodic basis; and

first output means ~~(30)~~ for providing an output if said first and second conditions are detected.

9. (currently amended) The apparatus ~~(20)~~ of claim 8, wherein said broadcast test includes determining whether said test signal includes a user selected location code associated with said emergency alert function.

10. (currently amended) The apparatus ~~(20)~~ of claim 9, wherein said test signal is broadcast on a weekly basis.

11. (currently amended) The apparatus ~~(20)~~ of claim 8, further comprising:

tuning means ~~(22)~~ for tuning a plurality of channels associated with said emergency alert function; and

wherein one of said channels having higher signal strength relative to said other channels is identified as said selected channel.

12. (currently amended) The apparatus ~~(20)~~ of claim 11, wherein said tuning means ~~(22)~~ tunes said selected channel to receive emergency alert signals capable of activating said emergency alert function.

13. (currently amended) The apparatus ~~(20)~~ of claim 8, further comprising second output means ~~(29)~~ for providing a first output message if said first condition is not detected, and for providing a second output message if said second condition is not detected.

14. (currently amended) The apparatus ~~(20)~~ of claim 13, wherein said first and second output messages each indicates a corrective action.

15. (currently amended) A television signal receiver ~~(20)~~ having an emergency alert function, comprising:

a processor ~~(27)~~ operative to detect a first condition wherein signal strength on a selected channel associated with said emergency alert function exceeds a threshold, and to detect a second condition wherein a broadcast test associated with said emergency alert function is passed, said broadcast test including detecting reception of a test signal that is broadcast on a scheduled periodic basis; and

a visual indicator ~~(30)~~ operative to provide an output if said first and second conditions are detected.

16. (currently amended) The television signal receiver ~~(20)~~ of claim 15, wherein said broadcast test includes determining whether said test signal includes a user selected location code associated with said emergency alert function.

17. (currently amended) The television signal receiver ~~(20)~~ of claim 16, wherein said test signal is broadcast on a weekly basis.

18. (currently amended) The television signal receiver ~~(20)~~ of claim 15, further comprising:

a tuner ~~(22)~~ operative to tune a plurality of channels associated with said emergency alert function; and

wherein one of said channels having higher signal strength relative to said other channels is identified as said selected channel.

19. (currently amended) The television signal receiver ~~(20)~~ of claim 18, wherein said tuner ~~(22)~~ tunes said selected channel to receive emergency alert signals capable of activating said emergency alert function.

20. (currently amended) The television signal receiver ~~(20)~~ of claim 15, further comprising a display ~~(29)~~ operative to provide a first output message if said first condition is not detected, and a second output message if said second condition is not detected.

21. (currently amended) The television signal receiver ~~(20)~~ of claim 20, wherein said first and second output messages each indicates a corrective action.